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From the second answer we have full confirmation of Professor Lewis's opinion, as expressed in his letter of inquiry.

Concerning Roger de Flor and the battle-cry *Desperta Ferro*, interesting accounts may be found in Francisco de Moncada, *Expedición de los Catalanes y Aragoneses contra Turcos y Griegos, Libro* I, *capítulos* II–XXVII, and in Ramon Muntaner, *Chronica del Rey Don Iavme Primer, capitols* CXCIV–CCXV. In each of these passages there is a direct reference to the famous war-cry, and I quote accordingly. Moncada says (chap. XVII)[1]:

"... Opúsose Roger con su caballería á la del enemigo, que por la frente y costado cerró con la nuestra. Rocafort, con su infantería y Marulli, hizo lo mismo, habiendo primero los almugavares hecho su señal acostumbrada en los encuentros mas arduos, que era dar con las puntas de las espadas y picas por el suelo, y decir: *Despierta, hierro*; y fué cosa notable lo que hicieron aquel dia, que antes de vencer se daban unos á otros la norabuena, y se animaban con cierta confianza del buen suceso."

In Muntaner we read (chap. CCII)[2]:

"... E batalla arrengada a alba del dia, que fo lo jorn de madona sancta Maria Dagost, ells vengren contra lo magaduch, e tantost los Franchs foren aparellats ab gran goig e ab gran alegre, que paria que Deus los tengues, com se feya en aquella saho; e los almugauers cridauen: *desperta ferres!* E tantost lo magaduch ab la cauallería van ferir els homens a cauall, e en Rochafort e lalmugaueria els homens a peu. E aqui vaerets feyts darmes que james tal cosa no vae nul hom."

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## A GROCER'S PLAY.

*To the Editors of Mod. Lang. Notes.*

SIRS:—At the beginning of the second prologue to the *Grocer's Play* in the Norwich Pagents is the following passage:—

"THE PROLOCUTOR.

"As in theyr former pageantes is semblably declared
Of Godes mighty creacion in every lyvyng thynge,
As in the fyrst of Genesis to such it is prepared
As lust they have to reade to memory to brynge
Of pride and fawle of angells that in hell hathe beinge;
In the seconde of Genesis of mankynde hys creacion
Unto this Garden Eden is made full preparacion.

"And here begynneth ower pageant to make the declaracion,
From the letter C in the chapter before saide,
Howe God putt man in Paradyse to dresse yt in best fassion,
And that no frute therof from hym shuld be denayed,
Butt of the tre of lyffe that man shuld be afraide
To eat of, least that daye he eate yt he shuld dye;
And of womans creacion apperinge by and bye."

The two sections are quoted to give the setting of the line,

"From the letter C in the chapter before saide" (*i. e.*, the second chapter of Genesis).

The obscurity of the allusion is at once cleared up by a reference to the *Vulgate*, the standard version of the Bible at the time the play was written. Each chapter in this version is divided into sections which are lettered A, B, C, etc. The second chapter of Genesis is devoted to the story of "mankynde his creacion" and the placing of the first human pair in "this Garden Eden." There are four sections covering the chapter as follows:—A, verses 1–7; B, 8–13; C, 14–19; D, 20–25. The prologue to the play informs us that its story is to begin from the letter C of the chapter and to continue through the narrative of the Temptation and Fall, which covers the rest of chapter two and the whole of chapter three. Section C, after a verse—belonging in thought to Section B—about the third river of Paradise, continues as follows:—

"Tulit ergo Dominus Deus hominem, et posuit eum in paradiso voluptatis, ut operaretur, et custodiret illum," which the playwright translates in substance in his line,

"Howe God putt man in Paradyse to dresse yt in best fassion."

EDWARD S. PARSONS.

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## NEW CHAUCER RECORDS.

*To the Editors of Mod. Lang. Notes.*

SIRS:—Recent researches among the *Calendars* of the *Close* and *Patent Rolls* and elsewhere have enabled me to discover several new records relating to Robert, Richard, and John Chaucer, and others of the family. I hope at a later date to publish a fuller account of them together with a study of the ancestry of Chaucer. The records referred to are as follows: *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 13 Edward III., part 3, m. 1; 21 Edward III., part 1, mm. 15, 29; 21 Edward III., Part 2, m. 10d.; *Calendar Close Rolls*, 1 Edward I., m. 6; 3 Edward II., m. 13; 4 Edward III., mm. 10, 11; 15 Edward III., part 3, mm. 13, 19; 16 Edward III., part 2, mm. 7, 15, 3 d., 8d., 20d., 21d.; 20 Edward III., part 1, m. 20d.; *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*, IV, 353; *Liber de Antiquis Legibus* (Camden Soc.), f. 2, p. 241; f. 61, p. 249.

A. A. KERN.

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[1] Rivadeneyra, *Bib. Aut. Esp.*, XXI, pp. 16-17.
[2] *Bibliothek des literarischen Vereins in Stuttgart*, VIII, p. 373.